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EXAMINER	
KE, PENG	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/503,137	MATTHEWS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Peng Ke	2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 February 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *143-191* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *143-191* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to communications: Amendment, filed on 2/19/2007.

Claims 143-191 are pending in this application. Claims 143, 164, and 190 are independent claims. In the Amendment, filed on 2/19/07, claims 1-142 were cancelled. Claims 143-191 were added.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

35 U.S.C. § 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

As set forth in MPEP 2106 (II) (A):

The claimed invention as a whole must accomplish a practical application. That is, it must produce a "useful, concrete and tangible result." State Street, 149 F.3d at 1373, 47 USPQ2d at 1601-02. The purpose of this requirement is to limit patent protection to inventions that possess a certain level of "real world" value, as opposed to subject matter that represents nothing more than an idea or concept, or is simply a starting point for future investigation or research (Brenner v. Manson, 383 U.S. 519, 528-36, 148 USPQ 689, 693-96); In re Ziegler, 992, F.2d 1197, 1200-03, 26 USPQ2d 1600, 1603-06 (Fed. Cir. 1993)). Accordingly, a complete disclosure should contain some indication of the practical application for the claimed invention, i.e., why the applicant believes the claimed invention is useful.

Apart from the utility requirement of 35 U.S.C. 101, usefulness under the patent eligibility standard requires significant functionality to be present to satisfy the useful result aspect of the practical application requirement. See Arrhythmia, 958 F.2d at 1057, 22 USPQ2d at 1036. Merely claiming nonfunctional descriptive material stored in a computer-readable medium does not make the invention eligible for patenting. For example, a claim directed to a word processing file stored on a disk may satisfy the utility requirement of 35 U.S.C. 101 since the information stored may have some "real world" value. However, the mere fact that the claim may satisfy the utility requirement of 35 U.S.C. 101 does not mean that a useful result is achieved under the practical application requirement. The claimed invention as a whole must produce a "useful, concrete and tangible" result to have a practical application

As set forth in MPEP 2106 (IV) (B) (1):

Claims to computer-related inventions that are clearly nonstatutory fall into the same general categories as nonstatutory claims in other arts, namely natural phenomena such as magnetism, and abstract ideas or laws of nature

which constitute "descriptive material." Abstract ideas, Warmerdam, 33 F.3d at 1360, 31 USPQ2d at 1759, or the mere manipulation of abstract ideas, Schrader, 22 F.3d at 292-93, 30 USPQ2d at 1457-58, are not patentable. Descriptive material can be characterized as either "functional descriptive material" or "nonfunctional descriptive material." In this context, "functional descriptive material" consists of data structures and computer programs which impart functionality when employed as a computer component. (The definition of "data structure" is "a physical or logical relationship among data elements, designed to support specific data manipulation functions." The New IEEE Standard Dictionary of Electrical and Electronics Terms 308 (5th ed. 1993).) "Nonfunctional descriptive material" includes but is not limited to music, literary works and a compilation or mere arrangement of data. Both types of "descriptive material" are nonstatutory when claimed as descriptive material per se. Warmerdam, 33 F.3d at 1360, 31 USPQ2d at 1759. When functional descriptive material is recorded on some computer-readable medium it becomes structurally and functionally interrelated to the medium and will be statutory in most cases since use of technology permits the function of the descriptive material to be realized. Compare In re Lowry, 32 F.3d 1579, 1583-84, 32 USPQ2d 1031, 1035 (Fed. Cir. 1994) (claim to data structure stored on a computer readable medium that increases computer efficiency held statutory) and Warmerdam, 33 F.3d at 1360-61, 31 USPQ2d at 1759 (claim to computer having a specific data structure stored in memory held statutory product-by-process claim) with Warmerdam, 33 F.3d at 1361, 31 USPQ2d at 1760 (claim to a data structure per se held nonstatutory).

As set forth in MPEP 2106 (IV)(B)(1)(a):

Similarly, computer programs claimed as computer listings *per se, i.e.,* the descriptions or expressions of the programs, are not physical "things." They are neither computer components nor statutory processes, as they are not "acts" being performed. Such claimed computer programs do not define any structural and functional interrelationships between the computer program and other claimed elements of a computer which permit the computer program's functionality to be realized. In contrast, a claimed computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program is a computer element which defines structural and functional interrelationships between the computer program and the rest of the computer which permit the computer program's functionality to be realized, and is thus statutory. Accordingly, it is important to distinguish claims that define descriptive material *per se from claims* that define statutory inventions.

Products may be either machines, manufactures, or compositions of matter.
A machine is "a concrete thing, consisting of parts or of certain devices and combinations of devices." *Burr v. Duryee. 68* U.S. (1 Wall.) *531, 570 (1863).*
If a claim defines a useful machine or manufacture by identifying the physical structure of the machine or manufacture in terms of its hardware or hardware and software combination, it defines a statutory product. See, e.g., *Lowry, 32 F.3d* at *1583, 32* USPQ2d at *1034-35; Warmerdarn,* 33 F.3d at 1361-62, 31 USPQ2d at 1760.
Office personnel must treat each claim as a whole. The mere fact that a hardware element is recited in a claim does not necessarily limit the claim to a specific machine or manufacture. Cf. *In re Iwahashi, 888* F.2d 1370, 1374-75, 12 USPQ2d 1908, *191 1*-12 (Fed. Cir. 1989), cited with approval in *Alappat,* 33 F.3d at 1544 n.24, 31 USPQ2d at 1558 n_24.

Claims 143-163 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. As per claim 146, it recites a user interface for use wit in a computer system. An user interface does not fall in one of statutory categories of process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 143, 144, 146, 147, 149, 155-157, 161-165, 167-173, 176-185, 187-190 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guzak US Patent 5,838,319 in view of Yagi US publication 2002/0059288.

As per claim 143, Guzak For use with in a computing system having access to local and remote resources, (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; "My computer" is local resource and "My Network Neighborhood" is a connection to remote resources) a user interface for displaying selectable links to local and remote resources in a manner that allows a user to easily find and select a desired resource (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; "My Computer" is local resource and "My Network Neighborhood" is a connection to remote resources) without the user being aware of a source location of the resource, the user interface comprising:

a top-level page having a hierarchical links region having a plurality of hierarchical categories therein, each of the hierarchical categories being visible upon initial display of the top-level page, and each of the hierarchical categories (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; In a tree view control displays a hierarchical view of items and

each fold is a representation of categories) comprising:

a category heading identifying a logical relationship between a plurality of resources, the category heading having a link therewith which, upon selection, opens a category page identifying a plurality of resources which have the logical relationship associated with the category heading; (see Guzak; column 6, lines 15-40; When the tree structure expands, it shows the logical relationship between folders) and

displayed in association with a corresponding category heading, a list of a plurality of resources having the logical relationship identified by the corresponding category heading, (see Guzak; column 6, lines 35-55; title of the fold is the category header) and wherein each item in the list comprises a link to a corresponding one of the plurality of resources. (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; "My Network Neighborhood" is a connection to remote resources)

However, Guzak fails to teach wherein the logical relationship of the plurality of resources in the list and on the category page are unrelated to a source location of the resources.

Yagi teaches a category where logical relationship of the plurality of resources in the list and on the category page are unrelated to a source location of the resources. (see figure 7(B) item 64, Recently accessed files is the category where items listed are not based on resources location)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Yagi's teaching with method of claim Guzak in order to provide users a list of recently visited files.

As per claim 144, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. Yagi teaches wherein the plurality of hierarchical categories includes a programs category. (see Yagi, figure 10 item "Program Files")

As per claim 146, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. Yagi teaches hierarchical categories includes a recent documents category. (see figure 7(B) item 64, Recently accessed files are documents because files includes data figure 4(B))

As per claim 147, Guzak and Yagi teaches a user interface as recited in claim 143, wherein the plurality of hierarchical categories includes a recent programs category. (see figure 7(B) item 64, Recently accessed files are application because files includes application figure 4(B))

As per claim 149, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. Guzak further teaches wherein the hierarchical links region further comprises a local computing system category for exploring resources locally available on the computing

system according to source location of the resources. (figure 2, item; My Computer folder is the category for exploring resources locally)

As per claim 155, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. Guzak further teaches wherein the plurality of resources include resources that are local to the computing system and resources that are remotely located. (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; "My computer" is a link to local resources; "My Network Neighborhood" is a connection to remote resources)

As per claim 156, Guzak and Yagi teaches a user interface as recited in claim 143, Yagi further teaches wherein the top-level page further comprises a customizable header. (figure 11. items 104; Since user can rename the folders' name and applications' name, the top-level page's header is customizable)

As per claim 157, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 156. Yagi further teaches wherein the customizable header includes a link which, upon user selection, allows a user to customize the header. (figure 11. items 104; Since user can rename the folders' name and applications' name, the top-level page's header is customizable)

As per claim 161, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. Guzak further teaches wherein the top-level page is configured to be initiated upon receipt of user selection of a start button on an operating system. (figure 2. Since program is under a window operating system, therefore it is inherent it can be set to start upon user selection of a start button.)

As per claim 162, Guzak and Yagi teaches a user interface as recited in claim 143.

Guzak teaches wherein the top-level page is configured to be initiated automatically upon start-up of the operating system. (see Guzak; column 3 ,lines 25-35; Since the the code structures and messages for implementing the tree view control are in the DLL of the operating system, the tree structure is configured automatically by operating system when the operating system is executed.)

As per claim 163, Guzak and Yagi teaches a user interface as recited in claim 143. Guzak further teaches wherein the list of a plurality of resources comprises a predetermined number of resources, and wherein the list further comprises a link to access additional related resources. (see Guzak, column 3 , lines 35-55; My computer and Network Neighborhood are link to access additional related resources that are linked to this client computer)

As per claim 164, Guzak teaches in a computing system having a display device and access to local and remote resources, (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; "My Network Neighborhood" is a connection to remote resources) a method for providing a user with selectable links to local and remote resources in a manner that allows a user to easily find and select a desired resource without the user being aware of a source location of the resource, (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; "My Network Neighborhood" is a connection to remote resources) the method comprising:

registering a plurality of local and remote resources at the computing system, wherein registering includes identifying one or more logical relationships between the resources; (see Guzak; column 6, lines 15-40; When the tree structure expands, it shows the logical relationship between folders) and

displaying a user interface which provides links to at least some of the plurality of local and remote resources registered at the computing system, (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; "My Computer" is local resource and "My Network Neighborhood" is a connection to remote resources) wherein the user interface includes:

a shell interface having a hierarchical links region having a plurality of hierarchical categories therein, each of the hierarchical categories being visible upon

initial display of the shell interface, see Guzak; column 6, lines 15-40; When the tree structure expands, it shows the hierarchical categories and links) and each of the hierarchical categories comprising:

a top-level category heading identifying a logical relationship between a plurality of resources, the top-level category heading having a link thereon which, upon selection, opens a category page identifying a plurality of resources which have the logical relationship associated with the top-level category heading; (see Guzak; column 3, lines 50-60; The list of items are resources which have the logical relationship associated with the folder)and

displayed in association with a corresponding category heading, a lower-level list of a plurality of resources having the logical relationship identified by the corresponding category heading, (see Guzak; column 6, lines 15-40; When the tree structure expands, it shows the logical relationship between folders)

However, Guazk fail to teach wherein the logical relationship of the plurality of resources in the list and on the category page is unrelated to a source location of the resources, and wherein each item in the list comprises a link to a corresponding one of the plurality of resources.

Yagi teaches wherein the logical relationship of the plurality of resources in the list and on the category page is unrelated to a source location of the resources, and wherein each item in the list comprises a link to a corresponding one of the plurality of resources. (see figure 7(B) item 64, Recently accessed files is the category where items listed are not based on resources location)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Yagi's teaching with method of claim Guzak in order to provide users a list of recently visited files.

As per claims 165, 167-169 and 188, they are of the same scope as claims 144, 146-148, and 162 respectfully. Supra.

As per claim 170, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 164. Guazk further teaches the method further comprising:

receiving a signal indicative of user selection of a link in the hierarchical links region; (see Guazk; column 6, lines 15-30; Click of the button on a mouse is a user selection) and

taking action in response to the signal. (see Guazk; column 6, lines 15-30; Expanding of the hierarchical link is an action)

As per claim 171, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 170. Guazk further teaches wherein receiving user selection of a link comprises receiving user selection of a link associated with a category heading. (see Guazk; column 6, lines 5-16; Upon user selection a hierarchical links between child items and corresponding parent items are drawn.)

As per claim 172, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 171. Yagi wherein taking action in response to the signal comprises opening a lower level category page, the lower-level category page identifying a plurality of resources having a relationship associated with the category heading of the shell interface. (see Yagi, paragraph 0094, selection of lower lever category page "image" provides a drop list of related resources.)

As per claim 173, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 172. Yagi further teaches wherein the plurality of resources are organized into hierarchical lists, each hierarchical list being associated with a sub-category heading. (see Yagi, paragraph 0094, Drop list of related resources is associated with the lower level

category page "image.")

As per claim 176, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 173. Guazk further teaches the method further comprising receiving user selection indicative of link associated with a category sub-heading and, in response, taking action to open a still lower-level sub-category page identifying a plurality of resources having a relationship associated with the sub-category heading of the category page. (figure , items 62 and 64; Items 62 and 64 are still lower-lever sub-category of items 58)

As per claim 177, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 170. Yagi further teaches wherein receiving user selection of a link comprises receiving user selection of a resource from one of the lists of the plurality of resources. (see Yagi paragraph 128-130; Execution of the selected item is an execution of the linked data in a selected application)

As per claim 178, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 177. Yagi further teaches wherein taking action in response to the signal comprises opening a resource. (see Yagi paragraph 128-130; Execution of the selected item is an action in response to the signal of opening resource)

As per claim 179, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 177. Yagi further teaches wherein taking action in response to the signal comprises starting an application associated with a selected resource. (see Yagi paragraph 128-130; Execution of the selected item is starting an application)

As per claim 180, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 177. Guazk further teaches wherein taking action in response to the signal comprises opening a folder. (figure 7A, items 62 and 64; Items 62 and 64 are results of opening fold action for items 58)

As per claim 181, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 177. Guazk further teaches wherein taking action in response to the signal comprises opening a lower-level page. (figure 7A, items 62 and 64; Items 62 and 64 are results of opening fold action for items 58)

As per claim 182, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 177. Yagi further teaches wherein taking action in response to the signal comprises creating a document.(see Yagi, paragraph 0076; Creating of the files is creating a document)

As per claim 183, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 177. Yagi further teaches wherein taking action in response to the signal comprises using a resource as a target. (see Yagi paragraph 128-130; Execution of the selected item is targeting a item with an application)

As per claim 184, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 177. Yagi further teaches wherein taking action in response to the signal comprises associating metadata with a resource. (see Yagi figure 10, The size and type information of the a resource are metadata of the resource)

As per claim 185, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 177. Yagi further teaches wherein taking action in response to the signal comprises displaying settings of an external device. (see Yagi paragraph 0057; Displaying setting of the a folder on remote network computer is displaying setting of an external storage device)

As per claim 187, Guazk and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 164. Guazk further teaches the method further comprising: receiving user selection of a start button on a desktop of the computing system, wherein displaying the user interface is

performed in response to receiving the user selection of the start button. (figure 2. Since program is under a window operating system, therefore it is inherent it can be set to start upon user selection of a start button.)

As per claim 189, Guazk and Yagi teach a computer system of claim 164. Guazk further teaches a computer readable medium having computer executable-instructions that when implemented by a computing system, cause the computing system to perform the method recited in claim 164. (see Guzak, column 3, lines 10-35; Execution on a computer system with a hard drive is execution of instruction on a computer readable medium)

As per claim 190, Guazk teaches a computing system for providing a user with selectable links to access local and remote resources in a manner that allows a user to easily find and select a desired resource without the user being aware of a source location of the resource, (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; "My Network Neighborhood" is a connection to remote resources)the computing system comprising:

a processing unit; (see Guzak, column 3, line 15, CPU is a processing unit)

one or more storage media having computer-executable instructions executable by the processing unit, (see Guzak, column 3, line 15, Hard drive is an executable storage media unit) the computer-executable instructions including:

an operating system; (see Guzak, column 3, lines 24; Microsoft windows 95 is an operating system) and

a user interface configured to be displayed in connection with the start-up of the operating system, (see Guzak, Column 3, lines 25-35; Since Tree control is implemented as part of the DLL of the operating system, the interface for the tree control is configured upon the start-up of the operating system)

the user interface comprising a top-level page having a hierarchical links region having a plurality of hierarchical categories therein, each of the hierarchical categories being visible upon initial display of the top-level page, (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; In a tree view control displays a hierarchical view of items and each fold is a representation of categories) and each of the hierarchical categories comprising:

a category heading identifying a logical relationship between a plurality of resources, the

category heading having a link therewith which, upon selection, opens a category page lower in level as compared to the top-level page, the category page identifying a plurality of resources which have the logical relationship associated with the category heading; (see Guzak; column 6, lines 15-40; When the tree structure expands, it shows the logical relationship between folders) and

associated with a corresponding category heading, a list of a plurality of local and remote resources having the logical relationship identified by the corresponding category heading, a storage device storing the plurality of local resources;
an association database storing relationships between the local and remote resources; (see Guzak; column 3, lines 35-55; "My Computer" is local resource and "My Network Neighborhood" is a connection to remote resources) and a display device configured to render and display the user interface to a user. (see Guzak; column 6, lines 15-40; When the tree structure expands, it shows the logical relationship between folders)

However, Guazk fail to teach wherein the logical relationship of the plurality of resources in the list and on the category page is unrelated to a source location of the resources, and wherein each item in the list comprises a link to a corresponding one of the plurality of resources.

Yagi teaches wherein the logical relationship of the plurality of resources in the list and on the category page is unrelated to a source location of the resources, and wherein each item in the list comprises a link to a corresponding one of the plurality of resources. (see figure 7(B) item 64, Recently accessed files is the category where items listed are not based on resources location)

Claims 145, 148, 150, 166, 186, and 191 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guzak US Patent 5,838,319 in view of Yagi US publication 2002/0059288 further in view of Huang US Patent 6,571,245.

As per claim 145, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. However, they fail to teach wherein the plurality of hierarchical categories includes a web resources category.

Huang teaches wherein the plurality of hierarchical categories includes a web resources category. (see Huang col. 13, lines 1-15; Book mark is a web resource category)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Huang's teaching with method of claim Guzak and Yagi in order to provide links to their favorite website on their desktop.

As per claim 148, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. Yagi teaches identifying local and remote resources. (figure 4(B): items 43; Under specify folder to be display teach folder is identified with local location or remote location)

However, they fail to teaches the New Content is activity center categoring and wherein the list of resources associated with the activity center category links to a plurality of activity center category pages, each of the plurality of activity center category pages having a particular theme.

Huang teaches wherein the plurality of hierarchical categories includes an activity center category. (figure 4, items; New Content is activity center) categoring and wherein the list of resources associated with the activity center category links to a plurality of activity center category pages, (figure 4, items 436; News, Weather, Financials, Sports, and Services are list of resources) each of the plurality of activity center category pages having a particular theme and

by the particular theme. (figure 4, items 436; News, Weather, Financials, Sports, and Services are different pages with different themes.)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Huang's teaching with method of claim Guzak and Yagi in order to provide links to useful website on their desktop.

As per claim 166, it is of the same scope as claim 145. Supra.

As per claim 150, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. However, they fail to teach the hierarchical links region further comprises a search category, the search category having a corresponding search heading and search input field.

Huang teaches the hierarchical links region further comprises a search category, the search category having a corresponding search heading and search input field. (see Huang, col. 10, lines 15-25; A search and query box are searching heading and search input filed)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Huang's teaching with method of claim Guzak and Yagi in order to allow users to search resource on their desktop.

As per claim 186, Guzak and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 164. They fail to teach wherein the shell interface is programmed according to an HTML format.

Huang teaches the shell interface is programmed according to an HTML format. (see column 5, lines 55-66; Encoding data in HTML is programming according to an HTML format)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Huang's teaching with method of claim Guzak and Yagi in order to allow users to browse application using a web browser application.

As per claim 191, Guzak and Yagi teaches a computing system as recited in claim 189. They fails to teach the system further comprising a favorites folder stored in at least one of the storage device and the association database, the favorites folder having subfolders therein corresponding to hierarchical categories on the top-level page.

Huang teaches a favorites folder stored in at least one of the storage device and the association database, the favorites folder having subfolders therein corresponding to hierarchical categories on the top-level page. (see Huang, column 12 lines 60-column 13, lines 5, Bookmark folder is a favorite folder of user selected web pages)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Huang's teaching with method of claim Guzak and Yagi in order to allow users to browse their browse their favorite web pages.

Claims 151-154, 158 and 174 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guzak US Patent 5,838,319 in view of Yagi US publication 2002/0059288 further in view of Reilly US Patent 5,740,549.

As per claim 151, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. However, they fail to teach wherein each category page includes a plurality of hierarchical

categories displayed upon the initial display of the category page, the plurality of hierarchical categories of the category page each including a category heading and a related listing of resources.

Reilly teachers each category page includes a plurality of hierarchical categories displayed upon the initial display of the category page, (see Reilly; column 13, lines 25-50; Category button and subcategory provides initial display of hierarchical category page) the plurality of hierarchical categories of the category page each including a category heading (see Reilly; column 13, lines 25-50; Selected category button is the category heading) and a related listing of resources (see Reilly, column 13, lines 40-50; listed news items are listed resources).

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Reilly's teaching with method of claim Guzak and Yagi in order to allow user to customize and integrate multimedia resources into graphical user interfaces of an operating system of a computer.

As per claim 152, Guzak, Yagi, and Reilly teach a user interface as recited in claim 151. Reilly further teaches at least some of the plurality of category headings of the category page are the same as the category headings of the top-level page, and wherein at least one of the plurality of category headings is specific to the particular category page. (see Straub; column 13, lines 35-42; Selected category heading is going to be same for items under that folder)

As per claim 153, Guzak, Yagi, and Reilly teach a user interface as recited in claim 152. Reilly further teaches the category headings of the category page include corresponding lists of resources related by a logical relationship identified by the corresponding category heading, such that the lists of resources corresponding to the plurality of category headings of the category page which are the same as the category headings of the top-level page identify a filtered list of resources from the corresponding category heading of the top-level page, the filtering being done according to the logical relationship associated with the category page. (see Reilly; column 11, lines 60-column 12, lines 15; Assigning of the news articles to different category is filtering)

As per claim 154, Guzak, Yagi, and Reilly teach a user interface as recited in claim 151. Reilly further teaches wherein the category page identifies a plurality of tasks specific to the category page. (see Reilly; column 9, lines 35-60; Category profiler options are different for each specific category page)

As per claim 158, Guzak and Yagi teach a user interface as recited in claim 143. They fail to teach the top-level page has a default size setting.

Leong teaches the top-level page has a default size setting. (see Leong, column 5, lines 60-65; The automatic calculated new window size is a default size)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Leong's teaching with method of claim Guzak and Yagi in order to provide user with an improved graphical user interface that alters a window presentation in accordance with environment changes, in a manner transparent to the application programmer.

As per claim 174, Guzak and Yagi teach a method as recited in claim 173. They fail to teach wherein a plurality of the sub-category headings are the same as the category headings of the shell interface, and wherein the list of resources associated with the sub-category are a filtered list of resources associated with the same category heading of the shell interface.

Reilly teaches a plurality of the sub-category headings are the same as the category headings of the shell interface, and wherein the list of resources associated with the sub-category are a filtered list of resources associated with the same category heading of the shell interface. (see Reilly; column 11, lines 60-column 12, lines 15; Assigning of the news articles to different category is filtering)

It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to include Reilly's teaching with method of claim Guzak and Yagi in order to allow user to customize and integrate multimedia resources into graphical user interfaces of an operating system of a computer.

As per claim 175, Guzak, Yagi, and Reilly teach a method of claim 174. Reilly further teaches wherein the list of resources are filtered according to a relationship associated with the category heading. (see Reilly; column 11, lines 60-column 12, lines 15; Assigning of the news articles to different category is filtering)

Claims 159 and 160 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guzak US Patent 5,838,319 in view of Yagi US publication 2002/0059288 further in view of Leong US Patent 5,513,342.

As per claim 159, Guzak, Yagi and Leong teach a user interface as recited in claim 158. Leong further teaches wherein the default setting is maximization of an entire display device associated with the computing system. (see Reilly; column 9, lines 35-60; The new determined size is a maximization of the used window display area)

As per claim 160, Guzak, Yagi and Leong teach a user interface as recited in claim 158. Leong further teaches wherein the default setting is to view the lists without scrolling. (see Leong; column 4, lines 50-60; Minimum size of the window is a view with out scrolling)

Response to Argument

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 143-191 have been considered but are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Patent Examiner

TC 2100, Art Unit 2174

Peng Ke